of unaccountable and essentially stateless transnational corporations, most of the authors cannot quite bring themselves to the point of recommending their disbandment, or whatever else might be done with them. Most contributors seem to assume that the corporations will continue to exist. Given their vast power and the absence of a current or emerging global consensus, one might be hard-pressed to argue that this is anything other than a realistic assumption. The unasked question, however, does not quite go away. Yet self-censorship is hardly an answer. The silent question, though, serves to highlight the very tentativeness of the concluding chapters.

Another limitation is the surprisingly little discussion of possible global antidotes to the undemocratic and unaccountable institutions of the current global economy. In particular, there is scarcely any mention of the United Nations and its agencies, whether unreformed or reformed, save as sources of quotations and statistical data. Why there is this near omission is itself an interesting question. Can the suspicion of the global and the attachment to the local run so deep that the very possibility of effective, responsive and democratized alternative instruments of global governance cannot even be contemplated?

All in all, a worthy contribution to the globalization discussion, though not without a few shortcomings that others will certainly continue to address as time goes on.

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Globalization as the dominant world order is today being contested at many levels and in many ways by a series of movements that cannot be reduced to a simple ‘anti-globalization’ movement. Billed by the editors of this collection as ‘probably the most important progressive movement of our time’ it receives
here sustained critical attention. There are chapters on workers and environmentalists, indigenous people’s movements, human rights, the Workers Party in Brazil and the anti-sweatshop movement amongst others.

Quite correctly in my view, the editors stress the extent to which globalization has always been shaped by the social movements that contest it: “Just as proponents of a neoliberal form of state-corporate globalization intensified their efforts to apply their policies on a world-scale they were met by a multi-faceted coalition of resistance that was also capable of mounting actions on a global level (p. 5). The aim of the collection is to illuminate how this occurred and its implications.

Fine overarching chapters are provided by Jeffrey Ayres and by Jackie Smith. Ayres focuses on how people’s conceptual framing of the current economic globalization process has helped structure global protest. He rightly notes how the very inclusiveness and accommodating character of the anti-neoliberal master frame to include human rights, the war on Iraq, the environment, consumerism, etc., limited its ability to engage in prognostic framing processes. Jackie Smith’s is a more historical chapter examining the growth of transnational social movements organisations since the 1990’s. One particularly interesting conclusion is that these movements, in much the same way as the transnational corporations, need to “cultivate mobilising strategies that are appropriate to local or recognise cultural and strategic conditions” (p. 36). Other chapters of note are those by Frederick Buttel on the relationship between the anti-corporate globalization and environmental movements and the one by Kenneth Jones and colleagues on the constraints and possibilities of the coalition between labour and environment duty made famous after the Seattle 1999 slogan: “Teamsters and Turtles Unite and Fight!”.

Whatever reservations I might have about this collection are outweighed by its considerable contribution. But we inevitably note that its contributors and its outlooks are invariably Northern. It is clear that globalization and all its attendant horrors ‘looks’ very different from the South. The other, and not unrelated, is the very U.S. centric focus on ‘9/11’. The attacks in the U.S. in September 2001 maybe do not, for the world at large, represent such a traumatic watershed as they do for some in the U.S. Why posit the history of globalization and its contestation
in terms of before and after “9/11”? The final chapter takes up “the challenges facing the global peace” and argues that “activists and scholars must develop and press for real alternative security policies (p. 165). Well, I suppose it depends what we mean by a security policy. But I for one do not feel compelled to offer a more effective and human rights compliant set of measures to defeat the self-defined enemy of ‘global terrorism’. That is not part of the progressive counter-globalization agenda to my mind.

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Peter Gallaher, Patrick Low and Andrew L. Stoler (Editors), Managing the Challenges of WTO Participation, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005, £35.00. 652 pages,

This edited publication contains 45 case studies of developing countries involved with the World Trade Organization (WTO). It illustrates the management and integration of their economies into the global, multilateral trading system almost a decade after the WTO’s formation.

The topics in Managing the Challenges of WTO Participation cover a diverse range of issues. These include the anti-dumping efforts of the shrimp industry in India, ayurvedic medicine in Nepal, Vietnam’s banking sector, Thailand’s tuna exports, telecommunications liberalization in Barbados and the protection of music rights in Bangladesh. This provides overwhelming evidence of the benefits of WTO membership to various sectors in a country’s economy.

The reader will have the favorable impression that the size and influence of a country does not matter within the sphere of the WTO. A larger and more powerful country will not be allowed preferential treatment because cases are judged according to the situation and adherence to regulations. Some chapters will certainly provide inspiration to developing countries seeking to air their grievances. In Chapter 21, Junsok Yang examined the scenario in which Korea successfully submitted a case to the WTO to eliminate a trade barrier with the mighty United States. The source of contention was resolved with the eventual removal